

Remarks

Claims 2-12, 14-34, and 36-53 are at issue. Claims 2, 7, 11, 12, 21, 22, 24, 27-31, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Launey et al. Claims 51 and 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Joao. Claims 3-6, 8, 16, 18, and 36-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Launey et al. Claims 9, 10, 20, 26, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Launey et al. in view of Joao. Claims 15, 17, 19, 23, 25, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Launey et al. in view of Joao. Claim 53 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joao in view of Launey et al.

Independent claims 2, 15-25, 28, 33, 34, and 51 have been amended. This results in the amendment of every independent claim. The amended independent claims 2, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 28, and 34 require that a remotely-located home security server (or application) be coupled with a *plurality of* home security controllers (or plurality of customer premises). The amended claims 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 33, and 51 require that a remotely-located home automation server (or application) be coupled with a *plurality of* home automation controllers (or plurality of customer premises). This aspect of the system is disclosed within the specification (page 2, lines 11-24).

All of the rejections were based on Launey and Joao. Neither Launey nor Joao disclose a home automation or home security system wherein a plurality of home automation or home security controllers, each within a separate customer premises, are served by a single, remotely-located home automation or home security server. Independent claims 2, 15-25, 28, 33, 34, and 51 are allowable.



Claims 3-12, 14, 26, 27, 29-32, 36-50, 52, and 53 are allowable as being dependent from allowable base claims.

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Prompt reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

(Bennett et al.)

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I hereby certify that an Amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

20 SEPT 00

Date

Timothy M. Barlow

Signature (Timothy M. Barlow)